

Reader Letters



Editor's note: The Corn Pone Pie recipe in the last issue of FARM SHOW was missing one ingredient: 1 can of creamed corn. We apologize to anyone who ended up eating a "cornless" corn pone pie.

I had hip surgery so I need a cane to get around. To keep it handy, I attached a magnet to the side of the cane so when I'm working on a tractor or doing some other job, I can stick it to something. Leaves my hand free yet it's close at hand if needed. **(Robert Brewer, Bethany, Ill.)**



When I take the loader bucket off my tractor, I set it on an old tire so it can move a little when reattaching to the tractor. Works great. **(Douglas Bentz, Durham, Calif.)**



In 2007, we started processing and selling thermally-modified wood – which is a method to preserve wood with heat and steam. In other words, we cook the wood. After the downturn in the economy in 2008, we lost the business but still had an inventory of wood. My dad, brothers and I started making elaborate bird feeders out of the wood that look like mini homes. They have stone chimneys, a yard, porch, etc. The roof opens up to put seed in. Sells for \$79.95 plus \$19.99 shipping in U.S. **(Daniel Z. Stoltzfus, Back 30 Acres LLC, 3513 S 620 E., Rockville, Ind. 47872 ph 765-344-1197)**

To keep deer away from flowers, shrubs and garden plants, I put Vicks VapoRub or perfume on a black rag and fasten to a stake near the tree or plants. They'll stay away. **(Joe Brcak, Montville, Ohio)**

I salvaged a front axle and some front wheels from a Deere lawn tractor. I wanted to make a wagon that looked and worked like an actual farm running gear. I will be fitting it with a large box and applying Deere decals to it. The



wheelbase is 52 in. and has a rocking bolster to allow it to traverse uneven terrain. The Deere wheels are fitted with ball bearings so it's plenty rugged. This wagon will be a lot more fun than using a conventional 2-wheeled cart. **(Steve Nichols, Galesburg, Ill. ph 309 337-7141)**

I'm 95 years old so the article in your last issue about open-pollinated corn grown and sold by Gerald & Leonard

Borries brought back memories of when hybrid corn came on the scene after World War II. Farmers who first planted hybrids found cattle shunned it unless forced to eat it. Open-pollinated corn had 16 percent protein as against about 4 percent in the hybrids. Farmers started adopting the sub-standard hybrids because of yields and how good it looked standing in the field, but farmers who were still growing open-pollinated varieties found out the birds would flock to their corn and leave hybrids alone. **(Alton Eliason, Northford, Conn.)**



We use 4 by 8-ft. plywood sheets, held in place by 2-in. sq. stakes, to provide a temporary box on our flatbed trailer. Works great for short hauls of anything from small calves to living room furniture. **(Rex Gogerty, 3475 K. Ave., Hubbard, Iowa 50122 ph 641 487-7617)**

In a recent issue of FARM SHOW Ron Geppert of Mankato, Minn., sent in an idea for a "lock bra" to keep padlocks from freezing up on his shed. It consisted of a rubber "umbrella" that prevents moisture from entering the lock.

My husband came up with an even simpler solution - he just nailed a piece of heavy duty foam rubber onto the door above the lock. Lifting the rubber exposes the lock so he can use the key to get in. When he lets the rubber back down it covers the lock. We've used this idea for about 8 years and have never had a problem with the lock freezing up. **(Pat Peirce, 15780 Massey Rd., Hagerstown, Ind. 47346)**



I made this portable, rustic seat by welding the metal seat off an old horse-drawn cultivator to a large disk blade. A diagonal metal brace adds support. **(Bill Koch, 7650 46th Ave., Raleigh, N. Dak. 58564)**

Since retirement almost 20 years ago my hobby has been restoring antique vehicles, ranging from large automobiles to small motor scooters. My major interest is in restoring rare and unusual vehicles, and I now have one that I can't identify.

This 3-wheel vehicle is unusual. First, the engine is mounted above the single front wheel. Second, there are 3 levers on the handlebars which control 3 separate belt drives, each with a different ratio.

When I purchased this "thing" the owner could only tell me that he had bought it from a church farm. I assumed it was an agricultural vehicle, and I was sure I could find information on it. However, there are no markings or identifying tags, signs, or decals on the vehicle, other than some remains of a decal on the tailgate. I can only detect the letters



"AG", which I assume indicated that it was an agricultural 3-wheeler. I estimate it to be at least 40 years old, and the engine shown in the photo has obviously been changed. **(Sam Thomas, 7684 Blanchard Latex Road, Shreveport, La. ph 318 929-3293; friedathomas@cmaccess.com)**

I came up with this hand hold to make it easier for my wife get in and out of our 1992 and 2001 Buick cars. It consists of a used, curved handle from an old push-type lawn mower. The handle slides over a short metal rod with a hole drilled into it and is secured with a 1/4-in.



bolt. The rod is welded to a square tubular piece that fits snugly into a latch on the car's door post. It's easy to install and remove. The same idea would probably also work in other GM cars equipped with the same door latch system. **(Donald L. Horacek, 1840 31st Rd., Brainard, Neb. 68626 ph 402 545-2238)**



I've been in the custom cabinet industry for 17 years and was asked to build a coffin for a friend. Since then we've designed a personalized coffin on which



I came up with a couple of different steps for my Deere 4850 MFWD tractor. One is used for fueling the tractor, and the other for cleaning the cab windows. To fasten the step for the cab, I drill holes in the tractor and use 4 self-tapping screws. The step for the fuel tank uses existing holes in the tractor frame.

I also came up with what I call "dirt skirts" that help keep dirt off my Deere 4850 MFWD tractor's radiator screens, which are located on the sides of the tractor. As the front wheels churn, they bring up dirt and chaff and corn leaves that get sucked in against the radiator. The dirt skirts mount inside the fender to stop such trash from being sucked

loved ones of the deceased can insert photos of their life into glass-framed panels, or choose a more traditional wood-raised panel exterior. Interior options range from satin to camouflage. Coffins can be ordered and shipped anywhere at a reasonable rate, saving the family a lot of money while providing a high end custom piece of craftsmanship that will highlight the deceased's life. **(Charlie VanDusart, 1516 110th Ave., Hammond, Wis. 54015 ph 715 246-9237; vqw@centurytel.net)**

I got this idea when trying to keep the branches of my aunt's fruit tree from breaking, because it's small and starting to bear a lot of fruit.



I attached a 3/4-in. length of PVC tubing to a 2-in. dia. cleanout pipe to form a prop to hold the branches up. The nice thing is when the branch lays on the pipe, it can't get damaged by rubbing unlike using a wooden prop or a rope. **(D.J. Moran, 6122 Palmers Mill Rd., Hurlock, Md. 21643 ph 410 829-2763; mordamien885@aol.com)**



I love this old Maple tree grove even though the trees drop a lot of branches. Instead of cutting or hauling away the branches to burn, I toss them onto a 5-ft. high "branch row" which forms a natural snow fence. That way in winter the snow drifts around the trees instead of my driveway. My branch fence also provides shelter for wildlife. **(Bob Wheelock, 17648 690th Ave., Zeoring, Iowa 50278 ph 641 487-7813)**



against the radiator grill. I simply cut up some rubber floor matting to follow the curve of the fender and then bolted the mat to the fender. It doesn't stop the trash completely but it definitely helps. **(Harold Fratzke, 234 Shoreview Drive, Cottonwood, Minn. 56229 ph 507 423-6341; cell 507 530-6090)**

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